

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 108914  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /023 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:JACoon  
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACoon  
-----096001 281918Z /75  
O 281856Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 9726

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108914

FOLLOWING REPEAT KABUL 3242 ACTION STATE SECDEF DIRNSA CINCPAC  
INFO ISLAMABAD NEW DELHI TEHRAN APR 27.

QUOTE O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3242

SITREP 8

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

ISLAMABAD, NEW DELHI, TEHRAN: ALSO FOR USDAOS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AF  
SUBJECT: MILITARY CONFLICT IN KABUL

REF: KABUL 3239

1. AT 2200, THE "REVOLUTIONARY MILITARY FORCE OF AFGHANISTAN"  
PROCLAIMED: "THE FOREIGN POLICY IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
RESPECT AND RESERVATION OF THE ISLAMIC RELIGION, DEMOCRATIC  
AND INDIVIDUAL INDEPENDENCE, AND THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT  
OF THE COUNTRY. THE FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE BASED ON POSITIVE  
NON-ALIGNMENT, SUPPORTING PEACE ALL OVER THE WORLD, FRIENDLY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 108914

RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES AND RESPECT TO THE UNITED NATIONS."  
IT ALSO ASSURED ALL FOREIGNERS THAT IT ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR THE SAFETY OF FOREIGNERS IN AFGHANISTAN.

2. COMMENT: IN SPITE OF THE MODERATE LANGUAGE -- AND THE  
FACT THAT THE NEW REGIME HAS NOT YET USED THE TERM  
"SOCIALIST," WE ADVISE AGAINST ANY PREMATURE CONCLUSION THAT

THE NEW LEADERS ARE NON-COMMUNISTS. THE COUP APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN TRIGGERED BY DAOUD'S ARREST OF THE KHALQ LEADERSHIP. SOME SOLDIERS PASSING BY IN TANKS HAVE GIVEN THE FIST SALUTE. THE FIRST RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT MENTIONED "THE PASSING OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE MASSES." END COMMENT.

3. A RECENT RADIO BROADCAST ANNOUNCED THAT THE COUP LEADER WHO MADE THE FIRST RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT WAS COLONEL ABDUL QADER, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AIR FORCE. HE IS BEING CALLED "CHIEF OF THE DEFENSE FORCE." WE HAVE INFORMATION FROM ONE SOURCE, DATED NOVEMBER 16, 1977, INDICATING HE MAY BE A KHALQ PARTY MEMBER.

4. IT IS NOW FAIRLY QUIET IN KABUL AT 2245. ONLY SPORADIC GUNFIRE IS HEARD. WITH THE DAWN MIGHT COME A RENEWAL OF MOP-UP OPERATIONS. AS OF TONIGHT, IT APPEARS THAT THE REBELS ARE EFFECTIVELY IN CHARGE.

5. COMMENT: IF DAOUD HAS INDEED BEEN KILLED IN OFFICE, HE FULFILLED A LONG AFGHAN TRADITION. THE LAST AFGHAN RULER TO DIE A NATURAL DEATH IN OFFICE WAS AMIR ABDUL RAHMAN IN 1901. END COMMENT.

6. UNLESS EVENTS DETERMINE OTHERWISE, THIS WILL BE THE EMBASSY'S LAST SITREP UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING. SURROUNDED BY VICTORIOUS REBEL TROOPS, WE ARE BEDDING DOWN IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 108914

EMBASSY FOR THE NIGHTGHT. ELIOT UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, POLITICAL MILITARY RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE108914  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JACCOON  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780182-0725  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978044/aaaaacpn.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** b75301ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 KABUL 3239  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2916018  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MILITARY CONFLICT IN KABUL  
**TAGS:** ASEC, PINS, AF  
**To:** PARIS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/b75301ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014